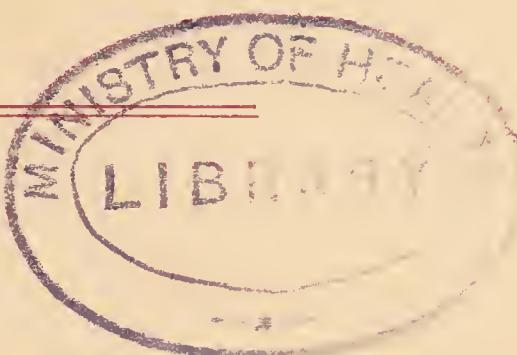


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BOROUGH

OF LEIGH



REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

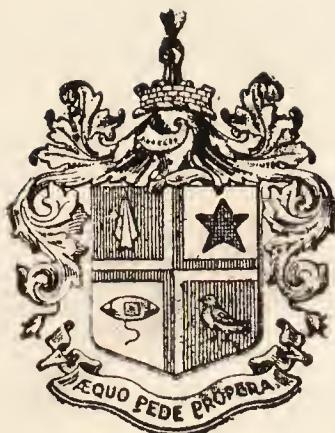
and the

Senior Sanitary Inspector

for the

Year 1953

BOROUGH OF LEIGH



R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Senior Sanitary Inspector

for the

Year 1953

Health Committee :

Chairman :

Alderman T. HOURIGAN, J.P., C.C.

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor F. GIBSON

His Worship The Mayor—Councillor J. STEVENSON, J.P.

Alderman T. Battersby, J.P.	Councillor H. Gough
„ W. Collier, J.P.	„ W. Hilton, J.P., C.C.
„ H. Gough, J.P.	„ P. Hull
„ W. Hindley, J.P.	„ T. Jameson, C.C.
„ W. Kearney, J.P.	„ S. Jones
Councillor C. H. Bratt, J.P.	„ Rev. R. J. King
„ E. Ditcher	„ F. Taylor
	„ W. Woolstencroft, J.P.

Staff:

Medical Officer of Health :

T. PATTON SEWELL, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health to the Urban Districts of
Atherton, Horwich, Tyldesley and Westhoughton

also

Divisional and School Medical Officer of the No. 11 Health Division
of the Lancashire County Council

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

HARRY CLUSKY

Inspector of Canal Boats : Rodent Officer : Inspector under Shops Act

District Sanitary Inspectors :

Arthur L. Hope

Harold Plinston (Resigned 7/6/53) Michael Richards

John Wilcock (Resigned 1/11/53) Norman Smith (from 24/8/53)

John P. Dixon (Resigned 8/11/53) Kenneth Pollitt (from 14/12/53)

Clerical Staff :

Senior Clerk : Eric H. Haslam

Clerk/Typist : Miss Mary Neary

„ „ Mrs. Alwyn Markland



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Section A

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Leigh.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration the annual report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough of Leigh for the year 1953.

In so doing, being my last report to you as your Medical Officer of Health, I would like to take the opportunity of thanking you, my own staff in the Public Health Department and the heads and staff of the other departments, most sincerely for your help, for your friendliness and for your encouragement during my term of office.

During the year under review the general health of the community remained satisfactory, there was no serious outbreak of infectious disease, or undue incidence of other disease.

The Live Birth Rate for the Borough, after a downward trend following the immediate post war increase, has risen this year to 15.1. Last year it was 13.9 and in 1951 it was 14.7. At the same time the Still Birth Rate has shown a slight rise on the low rate for the previous year being 28 as compared with 22 last year.

The Death Rate for the year is 10.2 thus continuing the downward trend experienced during previous years. The Maternal Mortality Rate is 5.36 and the Infantile Mortality Rate 29.

In accordance with the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1948, the personal health services have again been provided by the Lancashire County Council as the Local Health Authority while you and your staff have continued to provide and supervise the environmental health services.

Yours sincerely,

T. PATTON SEWELL.

VITAL STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1951, 1952 and 1953 :—

		1951	1952	1953
Population	... ... ... ... ...	48,480	48,280	48,070
Number of Deaths (corrected)	... ...	618	567	491
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	... ...	12.7	11.7	10.2
Deaths of Infants under one year	... ...	18	18	21
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 registered live births)	... ... ...	25	27	29
Number of Live Births registered (corrected)	... ... ... ...	712	670	725
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	... ...	14.7	13.9	15.1
Number of Still births (corrected)	... ...	26	15	21
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births)	... ...	35	22	28
Number of Illegitimate Births	... ... ...	24	27	34
Illegitimate Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births)	... ... ... ...	32.52	39.41	45.5
Maternal Deaths	... ... ... ...	1	Nil	4
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	... ... ... ...	1.40	Nil	5.52
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live and Still Births)	... ... ...	1.36	Nil	5.36
Number of Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	... ... ... ...	9	8	7
Death Rate per 1,000 population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	... ... ...	0.18	0.17	0.15
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	... ... ... ...	14	10	8
Death Rate per 1,000 population from all forms of Tuberculosis	... ... ...	0.28	0.20	0.17

Local Conditions and Statistics.

Leigh is an industrial South East Lancashire town. The highest and lowest ordnance datum being 146 feet and 53 feet respectively.

The principal industries are coal mining, cotton spinning and weaving, electric cable manufacture, rope making, rayon weaving, sheet metal working, agricultural and general engineering with some farming on mossland on the Southerly boundary of the Borough.

The Borough covers an area of 6,359 acres.

Population (Census 1951)	48,728
No. of inhabited houses end of 1953 according to rate books	14,101
Rateable value	£267,693
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£1,078

Table showing classification of causes of Deaths for the year 1953

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	4	3	7
do. Other	—	—	1
Syphilitic disease	1	1	2
Meningococcal Infection	2	—	2
Other Infective and Parasitic diseases	1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasms—Stomach	5	8	13
do. Lung, Bronchus ...	10	—	10
do. Breast	—	1	1
do. Uterus	—	4	4
do. Other	17	18	35
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	—	1
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular Lesions of the nervous system ...	22	34	56
Coronary Disease, Angina	48	27	75
Hypertension with heart disease	8	9	17
Other heart diseases...	29	52	81
Other circulatory diseases	7	7	14
Influenza	4	2	6
Pneumonia	7	16	23
Bronchitis	25	15	40
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	4	2	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	—	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	2	4
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	4	7
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	—	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	4	4
Congenital malformations	3	—	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	24	26	50
Motor vehicle accidents	4	—	4
All other accidents	7	3	10
Suicide	2	—	3
Homicide	1	—	2
TOTAL	247	244	491

Table showing comparable Death Rates from 1926

		Leigh	England and Wales
1926	...	13.3	11.6
1927	...	12.7	12.3
1928	...	12.7	11.7
1929	...	15.5	13.4
1930	...	10.5	11.4
1931	...	11.9	12.3
1932	...	13.0	12.0
1933	...	13.8	12.3
1934	...	13.8	11.8
1935	...	15.3	11.7
1936	...	15.8	12.1
1937	...	14.4	12.4
1938	...	11.9	11.6
1939	...	15.4	12.1
1940	...	16.6	14.3
1941	...	11.7	12.9
1942	...	12.1	11.6
1943	...	12.5	12.1
1944	...	12.7	11.6
1945	...	12.5	11.5
1946	...	11.5	11.4
1947	...	12.7	12.0
1948	...	11.3	10.8
1949	...	12.4	11.7
1950	...	11.8	11.6
1951	...	12.7	12.5
1952	...	11.7	11.3
1953	...	10.2	11.4

Statistics for 1952, 1953 and the period 1948—1952

	Per 1000 Estimated Population			Mortality Rate	
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Death Rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis	Maternal	Rate per 1000 live births
BOROUGH OF LEIGH					
Mean of 5 years (1948 to 1952)	16.1	11.9	0.27	0.96
Year 1952	13.9	11.7	0.17	Nil
Year 1953	15.1	10.2	0.15	5.36
Increase or decrease in 1953 on 5 years average (1948 to 1952)	-1.0	-1.7	-0.12	+4.4
Increase or decrease in 1953 on 1952	+1.2	-1.5	-0.02	+5.36
					+ 2

Birth Rate.

The total number of registered live births assignable to the Borough of Leigh for the year 1953 was 725 as compared with 670 in the previous year. The corresponding Birth Rate for the two years respectively are 15.1 and 13.9 per 1,000 of estimated population.

The following table gives the Birth Rate for Leigh and England and Wales during the last 25 years :—

	Leigh	England and Wales
1929	13.7	16.3
1930	14.5	16.3
1931	15.7	15.8
1932	14.8	15.3
1933	14.5	14.4
1934	14.0	14.8
1935	13.6	14.7
1936	12.8	14.8
1937	13.5	14.9
1938	15.3	15.1
1939	14.5	15.0
1940	15.5	14.6
1941	18.1	14.2
1942	18.3	15.8
1943	19.8	16.5
1944	19.3	17.6
1945	18.8	16.1
1946	20.4	19.1
1947	22.2	20.5
1948	17.9	17.9
1949	17.4	16.7
1950	16.5	15.8
1951	14.7	15.5
1952	13.9	15.3
1953	15.1	15.5

Still Birth Rate.

The total number of registered still births assignable to the Borough during the year was 21 as compared with 15 in the previous year. Giving rates for the two years of 0.43 and 0.31 respectively per 1,000 estimated population. The still birth rate for England and Wales during the period was 0.35.

**Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality,
Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for Certain Infectious Diseases
for the Year 1953.**

	England & Wales	160 C.B.'s and Great Towns including London	160 Smaller Towns Resid- ent Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census	London Admin. County	Leigh
Rates per 1,000 Home Population					
Births—					
Live Births	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5	15.1
Still Births {	0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38	0.43
	22.4 (a)	24.8 (a)	21.4 (a)	21.0 (a)	28.1 (a)
Deaths—					
All Causes	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5	10.2
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	—	—	0.00
Whooping Cough ...	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24	0.17
Influenza	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15	0.12
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis (in- cluding Polioencephalitis)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64	0.48
Notifications (Correc- ted)—					
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Meningococcal Infection	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.06
Scarlet Fever	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02	0.66
Whooping Cough ...	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30	1.29
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Erysipelas	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12	0.06
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Measles	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09	1.48
Pneumonia	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73	0.64
Acute Poliomyelitis (in- cluding Polioencephalitis)					
Paralytic	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.00
Non-paralytic	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.00
Food Poisoning	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.38	0.00
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	18.23 (a)	24.33 (a)	12.46 (a)	28.61 (a)	0.00
Rates per 1,000 Live Births					
Deaths—					
All causes under 1 year of age	26.8(b)	30.8	24.3	24.8	28.9
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ...	1.1(b)	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.3
(a) Per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births					
(b) Per 1,000 Total live births.					

Incidence and Mortality of Tuberculosis 1953

Age periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	1	—	—	—	—	—
10	2	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	1	—	—	—	—
20	—	2	—	—	—	—
25	—	3	—	—	—	—
35	2	5	—	—	—	—
45	4	2	—	—	—	—
55	2	—	—	2	—	—
65 and upwards	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	15	13	1	2	4	3
			28		3		7	
							1	

Incidence and Mortality of Tuberculosis, 1940-1953

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Notified cases :—														
(a) Respiratory ...	35	29	33	34	31	32	21	24	42	27	27	35	26	28
(b) Non-respiratory	16	14	9	13	14	9	9	6	12	6	14	14	4	3
Deaths :—														
(a) Respiratory ...	31	20	26	13	14	15	11	18	17	17	14	9	8	7
(b) Non-respiratory	4	2	6	5	4	4	5	1	3	1	—	5	2	1

Summary of the incidence of the principal notifiable diseases :—

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Scarlet Fever ...	444	167	105	177	128	32
Diphtheria ...	5	2	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	581	267	584	315	653	71
Whooping Cough ...	111	154	215	35	118	62
Pneumonia ...	39	41	33	44	29	31
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	7	1	2	2	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	3	—	—	—	3
Dysentery ...	2	1	2	25	1	3
Erysipelas ...	13	18	13	11	3	3
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	2	4	4	2	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	4	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	7	—	—
	1203	660	958	620	934	205

Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) 1953

Disease	Under 1		1—		2—		3—		4—		5—		10—		15—		20—		35—		45—		65 & over		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	2	2	—	—	4	—	2	3	7	9	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	15
Measles	—	—	1	4	4	9	8	10	1	14	3	9	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	25
Whooping Cough	3	3	5	4	3	4	8	3	9	4	7	8	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	26
Pneumonia ...	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	2	2	4	1	3	6	16	15
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Total	4	5	13	11	13	13	22	4	25	11	28	26	1	1	—	—	4	4	3	2	5	1	3	6	121	84

Section B

**GENERAL PROVISION
OF THE
HEALTH SERVICES
IN THE
BOROUGH**

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Leigh Ambulance Station Tel. Leigh 939.

CARE OF CHILDREN—CHILDREN ACT, 1948

Children's Committee, Lancs. C.C.—Area No. 11

Area Children's Officer :

J. W. COLE, M.A.

89-91 Railway Road,

Leigh.

Leigh 1658

CLINICS

1. Ante-Natal

Stonehouse Clinic, Leigh.

Each Thursday, 2 to 4 p.m.

2. Artificial Sunlight

Stonehouse Clinic, Leigh.

By arrangement.

3. Diphtheria Immunisation

(i) At the four County Clinics in the Leigh area by arrangement as required.

(ii) The general practitioner service.

4. Maternity and Child Welfare

(i) Stonehouse Clinic—each Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.

(ii) Chapel Street Clinic—each Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.

(iii) Westleigh Clinic—each Wednesday, 2—4 p.m.

(iv) Nangreaves Street Clinic—each Wednesday, 2—4 p.m.

5. **Ophthalmic**

Stonehouse Clinic, Leigh.

Each Thursday morning

6. **Orthopaedic**

Elliott Street Clinic, Tyldesley.

2nd Wednesday afternoon each month

7. **Post-Natal**

Stonehouse Clinic, Leigh

Each Thursday, 2—4 p.m.

8. **School Health and Minor Ailment**

- (i) Stonehouse Clinic—each morning.
- (ii) Chapel Street Clinic—Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.
- (iii) Westleigh Clinic—Monday and Friday mornings.
- (iv) Nangreaves Street Clinic — Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

9. **Speech Therapy**

Under arrangement made by the Lancashire County Council through the Divisional Medical Officer.

10. **Tuberculosis**

Chest Clinic, Church Street, Leigh

11. **Venereal Diseases**

- (i) Civic Centre, Bolton.

Males and Females—Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

9-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.

2 p.m. to 7-30 p.m.

- (ii) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.

Males ... Wednesday, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Females ... Wednesday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

4-30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

CONVALESCENCE

Under arrangement made by the Lancashire County Council through the Divisional Medical Officer.

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board.

HEALTH VISITING SERVICE

Full-time Health Visitor School Nurses are employed in the area by the Lancashire County Council.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Provided by the Lancashire County Council through the Divisional Medical Officer.

HOME NURSING SERVICE

District Nurses employed full-time are provided in the area by the Lancashire County Council.

HOSPITALS

1. **General**—Leigh Infirmary.
Atherleigh Hospital, etc.
2. **Infectious Diseases**—Astley Hospital, Astley.
Hulton Lane, Bolton, etc.
3. **Maternity**—Bolton District General Hospital, Farnworth, etc.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Regional Hospital laboratories at Leigh, Wigan and Bolton Infirmarys and at the Monsall laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service.

MATERNITY HOMES

Firs Maternity Home, Leigh.

Haslam, Havercroft and Heaton Grange Maternity Homes, Bolton.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE

Domiciliary midwives employed whole-time in the area by the Lancashire County Council.

MORAL WELFARE WORK

Local Worker :—

Miss A. Rigby
186 Chapel Street
Leigh
Tel. : Leigh 1061
(Council for Moral Welfare)

NURSING HOMES

None in the district.

UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire County Council in conjunction with voluntary organisations.

WELFARE SERVICES

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council residential accommodation at Atherleigh Grange, Leigh and at Bolton District General Hospital Annexe, Farnworth.

No hostels in the district.

X-RAY FACILITIES

At Leigh, Bolton and Wigan Infirmaries. Facilities for special chest cases at the Chest Clinic, Church Street, Leigh.

Section C

**PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL
OVER INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES**

PREVENTION OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

CHICKENPOX (Varicella)

This disease is not notifiable in the district.

DIPHTHERIA

No case was notified but the need to continue the immunisation campaign against the disease remains.

DYSENTERY

Three notifications were received during the year.

ENCEPHALITIS

Again no case was notified.

ERYSIPelas

Three cases have been reported.

FOOD POISONING

No case was reported during the year under the provisions of section 17 of the Food and Drugs Act.

MALARIA

No cases reported.

MEASLES

As was to be expected the number of notifications dropped from six hundred and fifty three the previous year to seventy one this year.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION

There were three cases notified, one of which died, whilst an additional death occurred from an unreported case.

MUMPS (Infective Parotitis)

This disease is not notifiable but it is known that a number of cases occurred.

PARATYPHOID FEVER

No cases reported

PNEUMONIA

Thirty one cases occurred this year, an increase of two on the number reported in 1952.

POLIOMYELITIS (Infantile Paralysis)

No confirmed case occurred.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

No case was notified.

SCARLET FEVER

There was a marked reduction in the incidence of this disease during the year under review thirty two cases being reported as against one hundred and twenty eight the previous year.

SMALLPOX (Variola)

No case occurred but if this satisfactory state of affairs is to be maintained it is imperative that the public continue to seek protection through vaccination and that a higher acceptance rate is achieved.

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year there were twenty eight new cases of respiratory infection and three of non-respiratory infection, as compared with twenty six and four respectively the previous year.

TYPHOID FEVER

No case occurred

VENEREAL DISEASE

None of the venereal diseases are notifiable.

WHOOPING COUGH

There were sixty two notifications during the year, about half the number notified the previous year.

Section D

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

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Part 7	Rodent Control	Page 59

GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Summary of Visits by the Sanitary Inspectors.

	Inspec-tions	Re-inspec-tions	Total	Defaults found	Defaults remedied
Dwellinghouses—					
Public Health Act, 1936 ...	860	3540	4400	1040	931
Housing Act, 1936	418	22	440	—	—
Overcrowding	40	3	43	16	4
Houses let-in-lodgings ...	2	3	5	—	2
do. for Vermin ...	25	36	61	12	5
do. Dirty	6	5	11	14	14
General Sanitation—					
Tents, Vans, Sheds	16	40	56	9	10
Canal Boats	29	—	29	—	—
Cinemas, Theatres, Dance and Billiard Halls	3	2	5	2	1
Streets, Passages,					
Footpaths	12	6	18	—	—
Marine Store Dealers ...	7	—	7	—	—
Infectious Diseases ...	59	10	69	—	—
Schools	12	7	19	4	3
Stables	8	5	13	—	—
Piggeries	64	89	153	5	3
Keeping of fowls	17	16	33	2	2
Rats and Mice	169	118	287	59	49
Public Conveniences ...	16	2	18	4	—
Farms	72	8	80	—	—
Tips	7	8	15	2	—
Drain Testing	99	63	162	18	10
Water courses	4	3	7	17	16
Smoke Observations ...	133	—	133	—	—
Pet Animals Act	5	—	5	—	—
Rag Flock Act	4	—	4	—	—
Miscellaneous	771	54	825	6	6
Shops Act	147	35	182	8	11
Factories Mechanical					
Power	121	56	177	20	14
do. Non-Mechanical	12	7	19	10	5
do. Means of escape in case of fire	18	33	51	4	3
Workplaces	6	3	9	—	—
Food Premises—					
Markets	49	85	134	3	3
Bakehouses	95	64	159	40	24
Canteens (Factories) ...	11	4	15	—	—
Canteens & Restaurants	17	12	29	—	—
Cafes	40	13	53	4	—
Dairies	23	5	28	—	—
Milkshops	9	3	12	—	—
Butchers	79	30	109	3	—
Fish Friers	46	10	56	4	—
Wet Fish Shops	13	2	15	—	—
Greengrocers	33	6	39	—	—
Ice Cream Manufacturers	29	13	42	—	—
do. Shops	28	26	54	2	2
do. Vehicles ...	3	—	3	—	—
Sweet Shops	24	5	29	—	—
Hotels	2	3	5	—	3
Public Houses	38	49	87	—	28
Off Licence Premises ...	1	—	—	—	—
Clubs	—	12	12	—	—
Provision Shops	175	43	218	24	9
Food Warehouses	16	30	46	—	—
Slaughterhouses	235	570	805	—	—
Offensive Trades	3	2	5	—	—
TOTAL	4131	5161	9292	1337	1161

During the year the Sanitary Inspectors paid a total of 9,292 visits to all classes of premises as against 9,164 in 1952.

Complaints Received and Investigated.

The number of complaints received and investigated in the year by the staff was 734.

These complaints are classified in the following table :—

Nature of Complaint							Number received
Defective drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
” Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	99
” Doors	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
” Windows	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
” Yard surface	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
” Eavesgutters	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
” House roof	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
” Floor	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
” Sink	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
” Wall and ceiling plaster	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
” Dustbin	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
” Washing boiler	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
” Fireplace	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
” Chimney	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dampness due to various causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Insufficient and inadequate water supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Water lodged	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Verminous houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Dirty houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Rain penetration	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Smoke emission	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Rubbish	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	734

Infectious Diseases—Investigation and Disinfection.

59 visits of investigation and 10 re-visits were paid to premises where infectious diseases had occurred. In addition 62 visits were made by the Disinfecting Staff for the purpose of carrying out disinfection on account of the occurrence of notifiable diseases. 14 library books and twenty-three beds were disinfected.

Terminal disinfection after Scarlet Fever has been discontinued.

Disinfestation.

61 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspectors in the course of investigation of verminous premises.

Mosquitoes.

During the summer as a result of complaints, it was found necessary to carry out spraying operations over a considerable area of water in the vicinity of residential property. The treatment had the desired effect and no further complaints were received.

A total of 54 premises were disinfested by the Disinfestation staff as follows :—

24 (57 rooms) Corporation houses ; 8 (25 rooms) Private houses ;
22 (77 rooms) miscellaneous premises.

Sales of Disinfectant by the Department realised £178 14s. 10d.

D.D.T. or Gammexane according to circumstances, has been used as a spray in solution of white spirit or as an emulsion in water.

Testing of Drainage Systems.

162 tests were applied during the year to drainage systems which were suspected of being defective. Where drains were defective the works of repair were supervised by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Testing of new drainage is carried out by the Borough Surveyor's Department.

Closet Accommodation.

Number of fresh water closets	...	15,806
Number of waste water closets	...	269 (approx.)
Number of trough closets	...	17 (schools)
Number of pail closets	...	23
Privy middens	...	19

During the year 8 waste water closets were converted into pedestal water closets. A sum of £8 or one half the cost of conversion whichever is the less, is paid to the owner on completion of the work.

The pail closets and privy middens are situated in the semi-rural area of the Borough where it is impracticable to provide water closets.

Sewerage Disposal.

The disposal is effected at the works of the Leigh and Atherton Joint Sewerage Board, Mather Lane, Leigh. The method of disposal is by percolating filters and humus tanks, with additional chemical treatment by chlorine gas.

Houses Let in Lodgings.

Visits at regular intervals have continued throughout the year to those premises on the register.

Of these houses it can be said that a satisfactory standard has been maintained.

Canal Boats.

There were no new registrations of Canal Boats during the year.

29 inspections were made, the object being to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Public Health Act, 1936. No infringements were found.

There were no cases of infectious disease on any Canal Boat and it was not necessary to detain any boat for cleansing or disinfection.

Piggeries.

The number of piggeries in the Borough is 101. Generally speaking they give rise to little in the way of nuisance, particularly those of more recent date and erected in accordance with the Building Bye-laws. The insistence on the submission of plans before permitting the erection of piggeries has without doubt done much to help in the reduction of complaints from this class of premises.

153 visits were made during the year.

Offensive Trades.

There are two tripe dressers and one fat melter within the Borough. These premises are regularly visited by the Sanitary Inspectors to ensure that they comply with the Bye-Laws and the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. A good standard has been maintained by the owners of the businesses.

Common-Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses within the Borough.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

No new applications were received for registration of premises during the year. One factory is on the register of such premises and was inspected several times during the year and found to be satisfactory.

Three samples of filling materials were submitted to an approved analyst and reported on satisfactorily. Both were found to conform to the Regulations and the B.S.I. 1425 standard.

Marine Store Dealers.

There are six premises registered as Old Metal and Marine Store Dealers in the Borough.

Public Baths.

The Public Baths consists of two plunges, 12 slipper baths and 1 foam bath. Facilities are available for Turkish baths.

Samples of swimming bath water are submitted regularly to the Public Health Laboratory.

Ninetyfour samples in all were taken during the year.

Mortuary.

The Public Mortuary is supervised by the Department, the two disinfectors acting as attendants.

During the year 74 bodies were received for the following causes.

Accidents	...	...	...	7
Suicide	...	...	...	4
Natural Causes	...	...	...	52
Other Causes	...	...	...	11

Refuse Collection.

This service is under the control of the Director of Cleansing who has supplied the following information :—

Number of moveable ashbins	...	...	17,864
Number of ashbins emptied	...	...	857,472
Refuse dealt with at Destructor	...	...	525 tons
Refuse delivered to Tip	...	...	17,636 tons

Places of Public Entertainment.

There are seven cinemas and one theatre in the Borough.

Five visits were paid in the year to this class of premises for the purpose of inspection of sanitary accommodation, ventilation and cleanliness.

Shops Act, 1950.

Due to the frequent changes in inspectorate it has proved impossible to give this year an accurate number and classification of shops in the Borough, but this is in the region of 900.

Complaints on account of opening after permitted hours have been less frequent since reversion to the times stipulated in the Act. Warnings to offenders have been given which proved adequate.

A total of 182 visits for all purposes were made during the year.

Eight informal notices were served under Section 38 of the Act requiring the provision of suitable and sufficient washing facilities. In each case the notice was complied with.

WATER SUPPLY

The supply is taken in bulk from the Rivington reservoirs of the Liverpool Corporation, being sand filtered and chlorinated before distribution in the Borough.

Arrangements are also made with Manchester Corporation for a supply to be made available from the Thirlmere aqueduct.

Weekly sampling of the Town's Mains Water is undertaken for bacteriological examination. In all a total of 122 samples were examined in the year—72 being submitted by this department and 50 by the Supplying Authority.

Six samples were taken for chemical analysis. The table on page 35 shows the results of these analysis.

Twenty one samples of well water from private supplies were submitted for bacteriological examination.

Number of houses with direct supply from main	14,118
Number of houses supplied by standpipe	1
Number of houses with private supply	7

Results of Chemical Examination of Town's Water Samples (Parts per 1,000,000)

Date	Sample	Colour	Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 15 mins	Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 3 hrs.	Ammonia	Albuminoid Ammonia	Nitrogen as Nitrates	Nitrogen as Nitrites	Combined Chlorine	Lead grains per gall.	ph value	Total solids in solution	Free Chlorine
2- 2-53	1	Normal	0.35	0.70	0.04	0.06	0.40	Nil	1.4	Nil	6.8	96	0.1
20- 4-53	2	Normal	0.20	0.45	0.04	0.05	0.50	Nil	15	Nil	6.8	92	Nil
7- 7-53	3	Normal	0.10	0.20	0.005	0.03	0.35	Nil	12	Nil	7.3	72	Nil
21- 9-53	4	Normal	(Submitted for examination for Lead only)	(Submitted for examination for Lead only)	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	6.8	—	—
21- 9-53	5	Normal	(Submitted for examination for Lead only)	(Submitted for examination for Lead only)	—	—	—	—	—	Nil	6.9	—	—
25- 11-53	6	Normal	0.20	0.48	0.05	0.06	0.40	Nil	13	Nil	7.1	96	0.05

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Number of factories on the register at end of year 185.

Table of Classification

Cotton and Rayon Textile Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	26
Reed Makers	...	...	...	...	1
Tailors and Overall Makers	...	...	...	...	7
Brick Makers	...	...	...	...	4
Builders Merchants and Stonemasons	...	...	...	...	7
Joiners and Cabinet Makers	...	...	...	...	13
Earthenware Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	34
Maltsters and Bottlers	...	...	...	...	3
Margarine Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	1
Mineral Water Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	1
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	2
Toffee Works	...	...	...	...	1
Agricultural Implement Makers	...	...	...	...	1
Coach Builders	...	...	...	...	4
Engineers and Iron Founders	...	...	...	...	10
Motor Vehicle Repairers	...	...	...	...	11
Scrap Metal Dealers	...	...	...	...	3
Sheet Metal Workers and Welders	...	...	...	...	6
Boot and Shoe Repairers	...	...	...	...	14
Brush, Skip and Hamper Makers	...	...	...	...	3
Cable Makers	...	...	...	...	1
Electricity Stations	...	...	...	...	3
Funeral Directors and Coffin Makers	...	...	...	...	2
Launderers and Dry Cleaners	...	...	...	...	3
Paint Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	1
Printers	...	...	...	...	8
Rope Works	...	...	...	...	1
Others	...	...	...	...	13
<hr/>					
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	185

The following table gives particulars of the inspections during the year under Part One of the Factories Act, 1937, and an analysis of the defects which were found, with particulars of the action taken.

Factories, Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	No of defects				Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Reme- died (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—					
Want of cleanliness	9	5	—	4	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—					
(a) Insufficient	3	1	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	18	13	—	3	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	30	19	—	9	—

Factories, Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health

Premises (1)	(2)	No. on Register (3)	No. of Inspections (4)	No. of Written Notices (5)	No. of Occupiers prosecuted (6)
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	1	8	17	9	—
Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	2	172	177	6	—
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	3	5	2	1	—
TOTAL		185	196	16	—

SMOKE ABATEMENT AND ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The number of factory and works chimneys situated within the Borough is 74.

The local Bye-law relating to emission of black smoke permits a maximum of two minutes in one half hour.

The following table gives details of the work done in this connection during the year :—

Number of chimneys observed (half hour observations)	...	133
Number of observations showing emmission of black smoke in excess of Bye-laws limits	...	25
Number of intimation notices served	...	17
Number of abatement notices served	...	—

An average emission of 1.43 minutes of black smoke per half hour was recorded.

This authority is a member of both the North Western Division of the National Smoke Abatement Society and the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee.

During the year the National Coal Board has continued its efforts at the Bickershaw Colliery to keep down the several nuisances which have been reported on now for the past year or two.

Five boilers are now fitted with chain grate stokers. The erection of a new cleaning plant is in progress to replace the dry washery which has given so much trouble with dust escaping into the neighbourhood. So far as the Spoil Banks are concerned, there was towards the end of this year some deterioration in the conditions. No sprays were working and this enabled the fires to spread, the attention of the management was drawn to the position after which it was expected that there would be some improvement again.

The attention of the Engineer of the Wigan and Leigh Hospital Management Committee was drawn on several occasions to excessive emissions of black smoke from the Atherleigh Hospital but no improvement is to be noted. It is understood that this is due to the overloading of the boiler and until additional boiler plant is provided no improvement can be expected.

Atmospheric Pollution.

The recording of the extent of atmospheric pollution, commenced in November, 1949, has continued during the year.

The apparatus in use consists of three standard deposit gauges and three lead-peroxide instruments. The latter is used to provide a useful index of what may be called the activity of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere.

Further information with respect to the daily measurement of smoke or suspended matter, giving, as it does, a measure of the pollution created by the smoke particles which remain in the air and are not collected by deposition would be extremely useful. The need for information of this type was emphasized in the Interim report of the Beaver Committee in Air Pollution and it is hoped that measurement of this class of pollution can be commenced in the Borough.

Co-operation with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research has continued in that the results of the analysis of the recording instruments are forwarded each month.

SOLID MATTER DEPOSITED

Month	Tons of solid matter per square mile											
	Leigh Boys' Grammar School						Town Hall					
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1950	1951	1952	1953	1950	1951	1952	1953
January	12.93	20.91	21.25	14.92	33.00	31.66	37.55	29.37	19.43	54.07	—	15.54
February	12.69	17.90	11.63	16.74	31.17	33.36	19.67	26.03	23.41	23.04	13.79	20.09
March	9.38	25.39	16.33	22.07	21.49	43.59	36.28	40.32	15.41	24.14	18.82	19.26
April	19.04	21.35	17.08	17.79	35.69	33.71	27.47	35.41	32.90	21.97	15.85	18.54
May	15.43	16.53	16.67	10.34	—	29.17	35.65	21.51	25.82	18.71	18.98	17.33
June	25.47	16.94	12.14	8.35	22.54	—	30.05	26.80	52.80	13.61	16.79	10.21
July	11.47	17.04	9.95	19.23	19.32	—	20.95	30.28	15.95	26.90	17.05	22.36
August	12.26	8.82	5.64	7.73	21.05	36.33	18.62	25.78	17.88	—	16.86	22.51
September	23.03	11.74	38.61	15.98	32.80	24.49	38.17	30.92	27.37	15.20	23.33	16.27
October	13.10	11.67	17.65	9.96	32.95	30.07	35.42	22.49	18.47	17.20	23.52	15.95
November	—	23.57	—	20.05	13.84	32.56	41.27	—	28.51	44.53	25.15	17.26
December	13.62	28.47	57.08	11.94	20.46	34.60	—	25.81	—	26.54	—	14.96
TOTAL	191.99	196.76	244.08	168.89	303.03	338.25	299.83	343.23	293.97	266.53	182.25	208.91
Average per month	15.99	17.88	20.34	14.07	27.54	33.82	29.98	28.60	26.72	24.23	18.22	17.41

Sulphur determined by the Lead Peroxide Method

Month	Milligrammes per 100 square centimetres per day											
	Leigh Boys' Grammar School				Town Hall				Firs Maternity Home			
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1950	1951	1952	1953	1950	1951	1952	1953
January	3.10	2.35	2.67	2.92	4.46	3.47	—	3.51
February	2.91	2.32	2.66	1.86	3.83	2.95	3.14	2.39
March	2.54	2.75	1.94	2.72	3.18	3.46	2.59	3.19
April	2.17	1.81	1.63	2.02	2.30	2.13	2.10	2.24
May	2.34	2.15	1.36	1.41	2.39	2.05	1.75	1.68
June...	1.38	1.18	1.14	1.48	1.53	1.42	1.19	1.52
July	1.19	0.96	1.03	1.23	1.17	1.13	1.17	1.20
August	0.99	0.94	1.00	1.18	1.37	1.36	1.29	1.42
September	1.48	1.14	1.56	1.49	1.82	1.66	1.41	1.72
October	1.83	2.18	2.03	2.10	2.87	3.25	2.44	2.92
November	2.74	2.27	2.99	2.88	3.66	2.97	3.26	2.03
December	2.41	2.04	2.81	3.56	3.48	3.02	3.39	3.41
TOTAL	25.18	22.09	22.82	24.85	32.06	28.87	23.73	27.23
Average per month	2.09	1.84	1.90	2.07	2.67	2.40	2.15	2.27

HOUSING.

General Observations.

Since the resumption of the post war building of houses by the local Authority, the emphasis has been towards meeting the general shortage, slum clearance being in abeyance. During this year an arrangement was concluded with the help of the Housing Committee whereby a proportion of the new houses would be available for re-housing tenants from Slum Clearance property and as a consequence of which an area of six houses was represented to the Health Committee in December for clearance.

Many of the dwelling houses which are not likely to come into the scope of a slum clearance programme are non the less sub-standard so far as amenity goes. These houses lack the provision of a bath, hot water and so on, structurally they are sound well-built properties with many years of life in them. These houses represent a problem of no little magnitude in a town such as this and it may be that a programme of progressive modernisation such as has been attempted in some other districts will have to receive consideration by owners in order that the creation of more slum class property be avoided.

During the year mining subsidence has continued to present many problems with respect to house maintainance and many complaints of defects are attributable to this cause. The officials of the Estates Department of the National Coal Board have sought and been given assistance in many such instances.

Repairs were carried out in default of owners, following service of Statutory Notices under the Public Health Act, 1936, at a total cost of £339 9s. 7d.

During the year 9 houses were demolished voluntarily by their owners after the Corporation had previously re-housed the tenants.

TABLE OF HOUSING STATISTICS

Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year :—

I. Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects	1278
No. of inspections made for the purpose	4840
No. of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	12
No. of dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	480

2. No. of dwellinghouses where defects were remedied during the year without service of formal notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	262
3. Action under statutory powers during the year :—							
(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936 :—							
No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	402
No. of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—							
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	190
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	66

Fitness of Houses.

Official representation was made with respect to the Chapel Street (No. 4) Area comprising, Nos. 150, 152, 154, 156, 158 and 160 Chapel Street. confirmation by the Ministry is awaited.

At the request of the Housing Director 232 Inspections were made with respect to the letting of Corporation Houses. 41 vacant houses and 9 vacant flats were inspected for cleanliness.

The following table shows the number and types of defects found and remedied in dwellinghouses during the current year.

Nature		Found	Remedied
Drains	...	146	145
Roofs	...	132	100
Eavesguttering	...	66	60
Rainwater Pipes	...	26	32
Walls External	Defective Brickwork	26	23
,,	Dampness Penetrating	28	20
Walls Internal	Damp Wallplaster	57	46
,,	Defective Wallplaster	62	60
,,	Defective Ceiling Plaster	29	24
Sinks and Slopstones	...	9	14
Sink Waste Pipes	...	15	9
Floors	...	46	51
Window Frames	Defective Woodwork	27	29
,,	Sashes and inadequate ventilation	42	25
,,	Glazing	—	1
Doors	...	12	12
Fire-ranges	Defective	24	28
,,	Smoke emission	20	14
Insufficient Water Supply	...	39	13
Closets—Fresh Water	...	126	108
,,	Waste Water	5	6
Yards and Passages	...	9	9
Other Defects	...	94	102
TOTAL	...	1040	931

Public Health Act, 1936—Statutory Notices Served

Section of Act	Reason	No. of Notices
39	Defective sink	18
39	Drainage (Sub-soil drains)	21
39	Gutters downspouts	47
45	Defective water closets	86
56	Paving—yards	2
83	Dirty House	1
93	Other conditions prejudicial to health ...	195
138	Water Supply	31
TOTAL		401

Erection of Dwellinghouses.

The Borough Surveyor has supplied the following information :—

	Number of Houses erected	1953	
		Houses	Flats
(a) Local Authority	132	24
(b) Other Local Authorities	4	Nil
(c) Other bodies or persons	18	Nil
TOTAL		154	24

Overcrowding.

During the year 36 reported cases of overcrowding were investigated. Letters confirming the existence of overcrowding in 28 cases were sent to the Housing Director, recommending early consideration for re-housing.

Twenty five houses were de-crowded during the year, the number of occupants concerned being 76.

Twentynine Certificates of Permitted Number were issued during the year with respect to 140 houses and 16 flats.

The Housing Committee allocates on a point scheme, all Corporation houses.

Sufficiency of Supply of Houses.

At the end of the year there were 1,828 applicants on the Corporation housing list of which 1,226 were living in lodgings.

The tenants of three houses for which the Health Committee had previously accepted undertakings from the owners not to re-let, were re-housed.

FOOD HYGIENE

Despite the apparent enthusiasm of the Food Trade when the Clean Food Guild was instituted in 1952, interest has declined very much during this year. In some respects the constant changes of staff in the department have perhaps not helped matters. Three new inspectors in less than twelve months means that the contact between the various sections of the Food Trade and the department have very materially suffered and to achieve virility in such a venture it is essential there be a close and constant liaison.

Licensed Premises.

Some further progress has been made with installations of various types in licensed premises following the survey made last year.

The following works have been completed in the year :—

IMPROVEMENT IN STRUCTURE, DECORATION AND EQUIPMENT

Nature of the Work	Premises Concerned
Insanitary Sinks renewed ...	9
Sink Waste Pipes renewed ...	5
Repair and Decoration of Rooms ...	5
Cellar Steps repaired ...	3
Cellar Floors repaired ...	2
Room Floors repaired ...	1
Hot Water Provided in Bar ...	1
Insanitary Beer Hose renewed ...	6
Provision of Glass Washing Facilities ...	1
Improved Storage Accommodation (Empties) ...	1

IMPROVED SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

Nature of the Work	Premises Concerned
Structural Defects Remedied ...	7
Flushing Systems Remedied ...	23
New Annexes Provided ...	4
Marking of Conveniences ...	1

These remedial measures have been taken voluntarily by the respective Brewery Companies directly as a result of the survey. The Companies are to be congratulated on their keen interest and their willingness to adopt in large measure the recommendations contained therein.

CLASSIFICATION OF FOOD PREMISES VISITED

	No. of visits paid
Markets	134
Bakehouses	159
Canteens and Restaurants	97
Dairies	28
Milkshops	12
Butchers	109
Fish Friers	56
Wet Fish Shops	15
Greengrocers	39
Ice Cream Manufacturers	42
do. Shops	54
do. Vehicles	3
Sweet Shops	29
Hotels	5
Public Houses	87
Off Licence Premises	1
Clubs	12
Provision Shops	218
Food Warehouses	46
Slaughterhouses	805
Offensive trades	5
TOTAL	1956

Bakehouses

Number of Bakehouses on register	59
Number of inspections in year	159
Number of defects found	40
Number of defects remedied	24

Slaughterhouses.

Two slaughterhouses have continued to operate during the year. One under requisition by the Ministry of Food and the other under private control but acting on behalf of the Ministry of Food, Bacon and Ham Division.

The number of animals slaughtered has again increased and despite staffing difficulties 100% inspection has been achieved.

During the latter part of the year the Inspectors had to undertake considerable overtime duty, necessitated by the slow rate of through-put. The number of slaughtermen available is less than ever, few youths come forward to enter the industry which although financially well rewarding, these days, has a very limited appeal. Some improvement in the methods of training of apprentices is being discussed in the trade and it is hoped that success will be achieved.

Nothing further has been heard of the proposal by the Ministry of Food to erect a new factory type abattoir in the district to serve the Wigan, Leigh and Bolton area.

The following tables give details regarding all animals which were slaughtered and inspected during 1953 :—

TABLE OF CLASSIFICATION FOR CAUSE OF CONDEMNATION OF CARCASES

	Cattle	Cows	Sheep	Pigs	Calves	Total
Generalised Tuberculosis	6	62	—	46	3	117
Oedema, Generalised	—	1	2	—	1	4
Septicaemia	—	—	—	2	—	2
Pericarditis, Acute Septic	—	2	—	—	—	2
Peritonitis, Acute Septic	—	1	—	1	—	2
Emaciation, pathological	—	2	20	2	2	26
Pregnancy, Toxaemia	—	—	1	—	—	1
Moribund	—	—	10	1	—	11
Umbilical Pyaemia including Joint ill	—	—	—	—	5	5
Fevered	—	—	1	4	—	5
Bruising extensive and severe ...	—	—	—	1	—	1
Swine Erysipelas	—	—	—	3	—	3
Immaturity	—	—	—	—	2	2
TOTAL	6	68	34	60	13	181

Percentage Condemnations for Tuberculosis and other conditions.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,712	2,828	1,844	22,074	17,256
Number inspected	2,712	2,828	1,844	22,074	17,256
All diseases except Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	855	1,608	5	3,524	214
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease or parasitic conditions other than Tuberculosis	31.52	57.07	0.81	16.11	1.32
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—
*Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	46
*Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	506
*Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	13.16	33.20	0.16	—	3.19

*Three cows were sent for slaughter under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938 by a Veterinary Surgeon, and are included in these figures.

Comparative Table Showing Total Weight of Meat Inspected and Condemned

HOME KILLED

	WEIGHT IN LBS.		
	Cattle including Cows	Sheep	Pigs
Total weight of carcase meat inspected	3,147,442	942,106	2,777,702
Total weight of carcase meat passed fit for human consumption	3,033,233 (96.37%)	937,655 (99.53%)	2,761,905 (99.43%)
Total weight of carcase meat surrendered as unfit for human consumption	114,209 (3.63%)	4,451 (0.47%)	15,797 (0.57%)

These totals do not include offals or imported meat.

The following weight of Imported Meat was received at the Ministry of Food Depot.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Meat and Offal	2317	3	2	20

Of this 393 lbs. of Beef, 28 lbs. of Mutton and 28 lbs. of Offal were surrendered as unfit for human consumption.

Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

Three cows were sent for slaughter at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse by Veterinary Inspectors. One animal was from a farm within the Borough and the other two from farms in the Warrington Rural District.

One was affected with generalised Tuberculosis and condemned.

The other two were affected with localised Tuberculosis involving the condemnation of organs only.

Cysticercus Bovis.

Although all bovines have been carefully examined no case of Cysticercus Bovis was found during this year.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

There are 26 slaughtermen holding licences granted by this Authority.

Inspection of Other Foods.

The following table gives a list of Foods examined by the Sanitary Inspectors and rejected as unfit for human consumption. All were voluntarily surrendered.

		Containers	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Canned Meat	... ... ...	1837	1	16	3	20	4
„ Vegetables	... ...	456	—	3	—	5	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ Fruit	... ... ...	1815	—	15	1	3	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ Fish	... ... ...	109	—	1	1	18	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ Milk products	... ... ...	1210	—	10	2	15	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ Sundries	... ... ...	424	—	3	3	24	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Miscellaneous (Unpacked Food)		—	—	14	3	17	4
TOTAL	... ... ...	5851	4	6	—	22	3

ANALYSIS OF FOOD SAMPLES, 1953

Article	Number examined			Number adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity		
	Formal	Inf.	Total	Formal	Inf.	Total
Bread	—	1	1	—	—	—
Butter	—	3	3	—	—	—
Cake Mixture, sweetened	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cheese	—	5	5	—	—	—
Cinnamon, Ground	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cocoanut, Dried, with Sugar	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coffee and Chicory Essence, Liquid	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cooking Fat	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cream, Canned	—	—	—	—	—	—
" Double	—	—	—	—	—	—
Custard Powder	—	2	2	—	—	—
Dripping	—	—	—	—	—	—
Epsom Salts	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fat, Sweetened	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fish, Canned	—	—	—	—	—	—
" Dressing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Flour, Cake	—	—	—	—	—	—
" Confectionery (Jam Tarts etc.)	—	1	1	—	—	—
" Self Raising	—	4	4	—	—	—
Fruit, Canned	—	2	2	—	—	—
" Dried	—	3	3	—	—	—
" Dried Mixed and Sugar	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ginger, Ground	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ice Cream	—	13	13	—	—	—
" Lollies	—	4	4	—	—	—
Jam	—	3	3	—	—	—
Jelly	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lard	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lemon Curd	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lemonade Powder	—	—	—	—	—	—
Margarine	—	2	2	—	—	—
Marmalade	—	2	2	—	—	—
Milk	13	52	65	4	4	8
" Condensed	—	1	1	—	—	—
" Condensed, Full Cream, sweetened	—	—	—	—	—	—
" Fermented (Yoghourt)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mincemeat	—	2	2	—	—	—
Nuts, Cashew, Salted	—	—	—	—	—	—
Olive Oil	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pickles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Raspberry Vinegar	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rum	—	2	2	—	—	—
Sausages, Beef	—	4	4	—	—	—
" Pork	—	2	2	—	—	—
Shrimps, Potted	—	—	—	—	—	—
Soft Drinks, Concentrated	—	—	—	—	—	—
Soup, Canned	—	2	2	—	—	—
" Cubes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suet, Shredded	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sweets	—	10	10	—	—	—
Syrup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tea	—	3	3	—	—	—
Vinegar, Malt	—	3	3	—	—	—
Wine, Non-Alcoholic	—	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	...	13	157	170	4	8
						12

Milk Supply.

Inspections of Dairies and Milk Shops were carried out at regular intervals throughout the year and found to be generally satisfactory.

No. of Registered Milk Distributors in the Borough	...	139
No. of Registered Dairies in the Borough	...	3

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949. Article 20.

Action was taken under the above Regulations with respect to three samples of milk from three herds found to contain Tuberclle Bacilli. The supply from each farm was subjected to heat-treatment until a final certificate from the Divisional Veterinary Surgeon of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries declaring the herd free from infection was received.

Average Composition of Milk Samples 1940—1953

Year	No. of samples	Fat	Solids-not-fat	Total solids	Percentage Adulteration
1940	90	3.77	8.80	12.57	3.3
1941	88	3.70	8.68	12.38	1.1
1942	78	3.60	8.67	12.27	5.1
1943	61	3.79	8.60	12.39	3.3
1944	50	3.70	8.53	12.23	4.0
1945	38	3.61	8.55	12.16	7.9
1946	34	3.57	8.55	12.12	5.9
1947	60	3.81	8.52	12.23	16.6
1948	83	3.70	8.60	12.30	9.6
1949	80	3.67	8.56	12.23	8.7
1950	87	3.69	8.62	12.31	6.9
1951	70	3.65	8.66	12.31	4.2
1952	62	3.86	8.65	12.51	3.2
1953	65	3.79	8.55	12.34	12.3
Average of 14 years		3.71	8.61	12.32	6.6

ADULTERATED SAMPLES, 1953

No. of Sample	Description	Nature of adulteration or Irregularity	Observations
321	Milk (Informal) ...	Freezing point indicated 0.6 per cent extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned. Further sample genuine.
401	Milk (Formal)	Deficient 13.0 per cent Solids-not-fat ; freezing point indicated 10.0 per cent extraneous water.	Same vendor. Section 3 Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Fined £10 and £1 1s. costs.
401	Milk (Formal)	Deficient 4.9 per cent Solids-not-fat ; freezing point indicated 2.3 per cent extraneous water	
404	Milk (Informal) ...	Deficient 3.4 per cent Solids-not-fat ; freezing point indicated 0.5 per cent extraneous water.	Same Vendor as samples Nos. 401 and 402.
379	Milk (Informal) ...	Deficient 25 per cent fat	See Numbers 387 and 389
387	Milk (Formal)	Freezing point indicated 1.3 per cent extraneous water.	Same Vendor. Vendor interviewed and cautioned. Further samples genuine.
389	Milk (Formal)	Deficient 10 per cent fat	
410	Milk (Informal) ...	Deficient 8.3 per cent fat	Vendor notified.
399	Ice Lollies (Informal)	No declaration of ingredients on labels.	Manufacturers communicated with, correct labels now in use.
419	Shrimps, Potted (Informal)	Contained 15.5 per cent of added fat not included in list of ingredients.	Packers communicated with.
421	Soup, Canned (Informal) ...	Fat content only 2.6 per cent.	Importers communicated with. Stocks withdrawn
461	Mincemeat (Informal)	Jar did not bear the name "Mincemeat"	Correct labels now in use.

Bacteriological and Biological Examination of Milk Samples

Designation	No. taken	NATURE OF TEST						Tubercle Bacilli
		Methylene Blue	Turbidity Test	Phosphatase Test	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Raw	75	67	6	—	—	—	—	71
Accredited	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	5
Tuberculin Tested	7	5	1	—	—	—	—	7
Pasteurised	31	31	—	—	—	31	—	—
Sterilised	16	—	—	—	16	—	—	—
T.T. Pasteurised	21	21	—	—	—	20	1	—
TOTAL	155	128	7	16	—	51	1	3
								84

The Presence of Tuberclle Bacilli in Milk.

86 samples of raw milk were submitted to the biological test for the presence of tubercle bacilli. Tuberclle bacilli proved to be present in three or 3.48% of the samples. In each case where the presence of Tuberculosis was confirmed the Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was notified.

With regard to the three positive samples mentioned in the previous paragraph, certificates were issued in each case (see page 52) for compulsory pasteurisation during the period of the veterinary investigation, in accordance with Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

One sample of heat-treated milk was submitted to the biological test for the presence of Tuberculosis and was reported negative.

Biological examinations for Tuberclle Bacilli 1940—1953.

Year	No. of Samples raw milk and accredited milk	Biological Test		% of Samples found to contain Tuberclle Bacilli
		T.B. +	T.B. —	
1940	106	12	94	11.32
1941	223	12	211	5.38
1942	255	21	234	8.23
1943	210	11	199	5.24
1944	203	6	197	2.95
1945	95	10	85	10.53
1946	107	5	102	4.67
1947	47	2	45	4.26
1948	116	9	107	7.76
1949	111	7	104	6.30
1950	97	7	90	7.21
1951	108	3	105	2.77
1952	111	3	108	2.70
1953	86	3	83	3.48

Ice Cream.

In accordance with Section 14 (1) (a) Food and Drugs Act, 1938, 23 premises were registered for the sale of Ice Cream during the year. At the end of the year 147 premises had been registered for the sale or manufacture of ice cream.

There are five manufacturers of ice cream licensed in the Borough.

All ice cream sold within the Borough is subject to frequent bacteriological examination. Samples are submitted to the Regional Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

The following table shows the grades achieved of 77 samples of ice cream submitted for examination :—

Identification	No. of Samples	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV
Leigh Manufacturers					
No. 1	13	10	3	—	—
No. 2	13	11	1	1	—
No. 3	8	8	—	—	—
Manufacturers premises outside the Borough					
No. 1	7	6	1	—	—
No. 2	7	5	2	—	—
No. 3	6	5	1	—	—
No. 4	6	3	2	1	—
No. 5	3	3	—	—	—
No. 6	4	4	—	—	—
No. 7	7	3	1	1	2
No. 8	2	2	—	—	—
No. 9	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	77	61	11	3	2

Where samples on examination are found to be below Grade II special visits are made to those premises situated within the Borough. In the case of samples from a source outside the Borough the appropriate local authority is informed and follow-up samples taken.

The following table gives the results of the examination of Ice Cream samples submitted under the Food and Drugs Act.

Year	Fat%	Total Solids%
1949	8.0	31.9
1950	8.9	32.7
1951	9.8	35.5
1952	9.8	32.7
1953	9.4	34.1
Average	9.2	33.4

Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.

Hawkers.

Any person, who shall by himself, or any person employed by him, sell or offer or expose for sale, any meat or meat food product, or fish, fruit or vegetables from any cart, barrow or other vehicle or from any basket, pail, tray or other receptacle, must be registered.

The number of persons on the register at the end of the year was 68.

Premises.

All Premises used or proposed to be used for storage of meat, meat food products, or fish, fruit or vegetables must be registered.

The number of premises registered at the end of the year was 52.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 (Section 14).

Ice Cream.

Under the above Act no premises, unless registered for that purpose, by the Council, shall be used for the sale or the manufacture for purposes of sale of any commodity consisting of ice cream, or any substance similar thereto, or the storage of any such commodity intended for sale.

At the end of the year 147 premises had been registered for the sale or manufacture of ice cream.

Preserved Foods, etc.

Under the above Act all premises used for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved meat, fish, or other food intended for sale must be registered.

The number of premises registered at the end of the year was 97.

RODENT CONTROL

During the year as a result of complaints and continuous survey 1,798 premises were inspected. As a result 332 infestations were found and in course of treatment 2193 visits were made by the Rodent Operator.

In 55 cases defective drainage systems were found and subsequently repaired.

Two notices were served under Section 4 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 requiring the carrying out of structure repairs and in one instance work was carried out by the department in default at a total cost of £1 11s. 8d. this sum being recovered from the owner of the premises concerned.

A free service for the destruction of rats and mice is given to occupiers of dwelling houses conditional on there being no contributory negligence.

The sum of £67 8s. 8d. was recharged to owners of business premises for the services of the Rodent Operator during the period under review.

Summary of visits made for purpose of survey

Location	No. of visits
Houses ...	862
Factories ...	36
Food Premises ...	36
Schools ...	19
Shops (Not Food) ...	7
Piggeries...	6
Allotments ...	14
Clubs ...	6
Building Sites ...	5
Water Courses ...	38
Stables ...	7
Farms ...	18
Garages ...	19
Timber Yard ...	1
Coal Wharf ...	1
Tips ...	6
Hen Runs ...	29
Slaughterhouses ...	2
Sewers ...	8
Railways ...	4
Offices ...	1
TOTAL ...	1125

Summary of Visits for purposes of treatment

Premises	No. of Visits		Non-Poisonous Baits		Poison Baits				Estimated Total Kill Rats Only
			Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	
	Rats	Mice	Laid	Taken	Laid	Taken	Laid	Taken	
Houses	1180	428	1361	378	394	221	1464	619	375
Food Premises	58	85	239	53	179	49	542	135	53
Shops (Not food)	10	7	6	3	3	3	44	10	3
Factories	113	76	962	199	145	106	931	268	172
Schools	13	15	58	14	56	36	101	26	24
Water courses...	57	—	694	181	66	59	—	—	112
Hen Runs...	4	—	33	8	4	11	—	—	6
Building Sites ...	23	—	284	59	27	27	—	—	56
Allotments ...	1	—	34	9	3	3	—	—	6
Farms	42	—	268	70	252	71	—	—	106
Clubs...	7	11	70	15	4	4	70	25	10
Offices	1	3	—	—	3	2	4	—	—
Tips	15	—	179	32	16	15	—	—	31
Sewers	35	—	56	34	10	10	—	—	31
Churches	2	3	—	—	—	—	53	23	—
Piggeries	4	—	64	14	23	8	—	—	6
TOTAL	1565	628	4308	1069	1185	625	3209	1106	991

Sewer Infestation.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries procedure as to the methods of pre-baiting and poisoning is adhered to throughout this work. The disinfection of sewers comprises what is known as an initial treatment followed by maintenance of a similar kind at six-monthly intervals.

Two further maintenance treatments of sewers were undertaken and a comparative table of all treatments undertaken since the inception of this scheme in 1945 to date is given below.

Sewer Treatment — Rats

Year	Treatment No.	No. of Man-holes treated	Pre-Baiting (2 days)		Poison Baiting			Estimated Kill
			Taken	Not taken	Good	Small	Not Taken	
1945	1	834	107	727	68	38	728	1160
	2	834	31	803	10	22	802	280
1946	3	224	137	311	36	37	151	660
	4	224	135	313	27	35	162	593
1947	5	87	119	55	42	20	25	693
1948	6	93	99	87	24	27	48	500
	7	102	75	129	24	16	62	427
1949	8	106	14	91	30	22	54	520
	9	117	25	82	35	16	66	510
1950	10	94	48	46	14	34	46	930
	11	104	63	41	3	56	45	620
1951	12	64	49	15	4	38	22	420
	13	108	46	62	4	42	62	460
1952	14	106	64	42	1	64	41	222
	15	121	65	56	2	60	59	215
1953	16	109	53	56	—	50	59	208
	17	108	56	52	1	56	51	280

The results of these treatments over the past two years appear to show a residual rat population in the sewers and their confines which, by means of this baiting is being kept at a low level. If by continued vigilance on these lines the rat population can be held down, the work will be well justified, because surface infestations are necessarily bound up with the sewer rat population by reason of defective drainage.

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